## The Hawaiian Star.

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## THE FISHERIES.

The Territory is up against it again. Now it is the fisheries. Two courts here have decided against vested rights in the fisheries, but the court of final appeal, the Supreme Court of the United States, has decided that the land-owners here have vested rights. This brings the Territory up against a very high wall. The Organic Act says:

Sec. 95. That all laws of the Republic of Hawaii which confer exclusive fishing rights upon any person or persons are hereby repealed, and all fisheries in the sea waters of the Territory of Hawaii not included in any fish pond or artificial inclosure shall be free to all citizens of I the United States, subject however, to vested rights; but no such vested right shall be valid after three years from the taking effect of this Act unless established as hereinafter provided.

The law therefore makes the fisheries of Hawaii free to all citizens of the United States, and repeals all laws of Hawaii conferring exclusive fishing rights upon any person or persons. Having provided for free fishing it allows, however, for vested rights. After showing how the person claiming vested rights is to proceed it then shows what the attorney-general should do in order to make the fishing free. It says:

That if such fishing right be established, the attorney-general of the Territory of Hawaii may proceed, in such manner as may be provided by law for the condemnation of property for public use, to condemn such private right of fishing to the use of the citizens of the United States upon making just compensation, which compensation, when lawfully ascertained, shall be paid out of any money in the treasury of the Territory of Hawaii not otherwise appropriated.

There is one saving word in this latter paragraph, however, which may save the Territory much money. It says the attorney-general "may" proceed, not the attorney-general "shall" proceed. If this allows the attorney-general to ignore the cases, the Territory need not stir them up and bring condemnation proceedings. How this is going to hitch with the statement in section 95, that "all fisheries in the sea waters of the Territory of Hawaii " " shall be free to all citizens of the United States," is not clear. What the government of the Territory wants to know is whether the condemnation of fishing rights, which are now considered as vested rights, is mandatory or not. If it is not mandatory we can go along as we have been doing. If it is mandatory we shall have to put large sums of money, which we do not have possession of, into the pockets of wealthy individuals and still wealthier corpora-

There can be no doubt about the seriousness of the issue. It is another lightning flash from the blue. When the cases were settled here, there seemed no doubt as to the view the Federal supreme court would hold, and the question had passed out of general consideration. It will have very careful consideration now, for it is a question involving probably some millions of taxpayers' money.

## TRADE PROPOSITIONS.

When we are considering questions with regard to the Orient, we have to be very careful to consider our trade relations with that part of the world. The Orient is to us our great outlet for our manufactures. It is the market of the world. Every manufacturing power in seeking its success in that wonderful portion of the globe.

To put it boldly a manufacturing country must have a market. It between the United States and the seeks its market in the easiest way that it can find at first. It begins to United Kingdom, the class of goods imforce itself very soon after it finds that others strive, as hard and perhaps harder. This is the true statement of mercantile effort. A very to the United States, while in the case interesting history might be written of modern commercialism, which of India the sole competitive article is could be very picturesquely annotated by the stories of commercial cotton, of which Japan takes freely ventures hundreds and perhaps thousands of years ago. After all, trades have not changed very much, and the methods are very much the same. The only addition to the Anglo-Saxon trader has been his carry those of cotton from the United States, ing his religion with his trade, a fact which has done him an infinity of harm, if we can believe the outsider. But the Phenecian did the same 1963, when prices in the United States thing three thousands years ago, so the point can be argued and one were extremely high and resulted in a quéstions whether a logical result can be reached.

However the progress of the world depends upon its trade, and not Japan and a reduction of nearly 5 milupon its ethics. A very large number of people think that ethics govern lion dollars in the value of raw cotton the world. They do not. There is no country upon the face of the earth exported to that country from the Unitwhich pays less attention to commercial ethics than the United States of probable that the United States would, America. No one can contemplate that outrageous monopoly of the at the end of 1963, have considerably ex-Standard Oil trust, and the dozens of other trusts that can be mentioned | ceeded the United Kingdom in the Japand believe in commercial ethics. Monopoly hurts the country it exists arese statement of Imports by counin. When it comes into contact with the world it loses money, and tries. makes its citizens pay its loses. That is the history of sugar monopoly in Europe.

Looking at Oriental trade in the light of the advancement of our own country, Japanese trade naturally calls the attention of any one in- that island, terested. The following report from the Department of Commerce will some deaths from starvation. Among be satisfactory and will show very clearly what our trade interests in the present war struggle really are.

Japan has recently published and forwarded to outside countries an analysis of her trade. This statement is altogether to the advantage of Hawall coffee as well, and that would the United States. The United States is the largest customer of Japan. make our industry quite profitable. The value of exports from Japan to her most important customers in 1902 was: To Germany, 4,737,000 yen (yen 49.8 cents); Italy, 13,287,-000 yen; British India, 13,337,000 yen; Great Britain, 17,346,000 yen; Hongkong, 25,876,000 yen; France, 27,283,000 yen; China, 46,838,000 yen, and to the United States, 80,233,000 yen. Thus the United States takes as much of the products of Japan as all of Europe and nearly twice as much as China, Japan's second largest customer.

The imports the United States stood second in 1902, and at the end elder brother, the Count of Turin, who guns in position, merely to lose their of 1903 was but \$1,227,000 below Great Britain, which still holds the lead. For 1902, the latest year for which the import figures of Japan are available with reference to all countries, the imports from leading countries, stated in the order of magnitude, were: From British India, 50,977,000 yen; from Great Britain, 50,364,000 yen; from the United States, 48,653,000 yen; China, 40,591,000 yen; Germany, 25,813,000 yen, and from France, 4,746,000 ven. In 1903 the imports from the four principal countries were: From India, 70.095,000 yen; from Great Britain, 48,737,000 yen; from the United States, 46,273,000 yen, and from China, 45,458,000 yen.

The feature of this official statement which is of especial interest in its relation to the growth of American exports to Japan is the fact that the United States has made much more rapid gains in the imports of Japan than any of her principal rivals. Comparing conditions in 1902 in her Mongolian policy. China could and dictate his cwn terms of nencewith those of 1890, for example, the United States shows a gain from make a powerful diversion in favor of 6,874,000 yen in 1890 to 48,653,000 in 1902, while the figures of imports Japan if she were to cross the border from Great Britain are, in 1890, 26,619,000, and in 1902, 50,364,000 yen; from Germany, in 1890, 6.857,000 yen, and in 1902, 25.813,000 yen; from China, in 1890, 8.850,000 yen, and in 1902, 40.591,000 yen; and from As It is the fear of Chinese action keeps British India, in 1890, 8,011,000 yen, and in 1902, 50,927,00 yen:

Considering only the five principal countries from which Japan' chief importations are obtained the United States has made much greator gains than any of the others. It will also be seen from these figures ments and our House of Representathat the chief rivalry for the classes of merchandise for which the United tives have made that stear. The quest ad in the mar. A bargain-

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States is seeking a market in Japan is from India in years a that country, owing to the fact that prices of Indian cotton are lower than This is especially true of the year

reduction of about 50 million pounds in the exportation of American cotton to

A report from Porto Rico recently nade shows that there is much distress among the laboring population of There have even been the proposed improvements is putting tariff on coffee, so as to protect Porto Rico from the Brazillan coffee. should be delighted to hear of this being put through as it would protect

The Duke D'Abbruzzi who is coming here in an Italian man-of-war on his way to the Orient to watch the war, Christoforo Colombo. Since then he has much about the Yalu as the Japanese' made the ascent of Mt. St. Elias and One would take it to be unlikely that is heir presumptive to the Italian troops. The Japanese won't enter Man throne was thrown from his horse the churfa by any road which General Ku other day, and the injuries to one of his ropatkin may be ready to defend. In legs are of such a character that it is fact the chances are that the Japanese likely he will be larned for life. If any have entered Manchuria covered by more serious complications were to de. their fleet, and that Port Arthur is iso clare themselves, Prince Luigi might lated from the Russian main body. secome the heir presumptive.

China is beginning to feel uneasy, and the loss of Russian prestige is bringing the governmental trend of thought towards Japan. Li Hung was illuminated last night in honor of than foretold that this would be so, this mighty feat. In consequence the heavy bribes from Russia to help her has determined to carry on the war and demand her rights in Manchuria. Kuropatkin would find his scheme of ampaign knocked into a kocked hat. him on tenterbooks.

There is going to be no footing with regard to the exclusion laws. Both our

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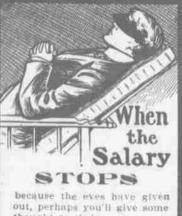
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tion now is, what is the Chinese Government going to do about it? It considers that it has a strong card to play

Kuropatkin is reported to have flefended the passage across the Yalu. visited Honolulu some years ago in the Does the Russian General know as has conducted an Arctic expedition. His the Japanese would attack a force with The Russian traps are too patent.

The Viadivostok squadron has got to sea and has been winning victories. It bringing the governmental trend of has sunk a Japanese trading steamer hough at that time he was receiving Cgar is so much encouraged that he

> The land fighting seems about it ommence, the millary attaches, wh are the guests of the government, have been instructed to go to the front. This means that uit the dispositions have been made and that the armies mabe expected to jobs homos at any mo

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